Atty. Dkt.: Q92641

Preliminary Amendment

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A cross-linkable compound containing one or more fluorendiyl groups of the formula:

where R, independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, a monovalent crosslink forming group, X, or a polyvalent crosslink forming group, X', with the proviso that in at least one repeat unit per molecule, at least one R is X or X'.

- 2. (original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein R in at least one occurrence is a moiety containing a double bond, a triple bond, a precursor capable of in situ formation of a double bond, or a heterocyclic, addition polymerizable group.
- 3. (original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein R in a least one occurrence is selected from the group consisting of benzocyclobutanyl groups and substituted C<sub>6-12</sub> arylene groups containing one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of benzocyclobutane, azide, oxirane, di(hydrocarbyl)amino, cyanate ester, hydroxy, glycidyl ether, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylacrylate, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylmethacrylate, alkenyl, alkenyloxy, alkynyl, maleimide, nadimide, tri(C<sub>1-4</sub>)-alkylsiloxy, tri(C<sub>1-4</sub>)alkylsilyl, and halogenated derivatives thereof.

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- 4. (original): A compound according to claim 1 wherein R in at least one occurrence is benzo-3,4-cyclobutan-1-yl or p-vinylbenzyl.
- 5. (original): A cross-linkable composition comprising oligomers or polymers having empirical formula Ia:

$$\begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix}_{x} \begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix}_{z}$$
 (Ia)

where R, independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, a monovalent crosslink forming group, X, or a polyvalent crosslink forming group, X', with the proviso that in at least one repeat unit per molecule, at least one R is X or X';

Z is a divalent remnant of a comonomer or a monovalent chain terminating group; and x is a number from 1 to 10,000 and z is a number from 0 to 10,000 signifying the average number of repeat units in the composition.

6. (currently amended): A composition according to claim 5 wherein Z in each occurrence is halo, cyano, triflate, azide,  $-B(OR^1)_2$ , or

wherein  $R^1$ , independently in each occurrence, is hydrogen or a  $C_{1-10}$  alkyl group, and  $R^2$ , independently each occurrence, is a  $C_{2-10}$  alkylene group.

7. (currently amended): A crosslinkable oligomer or polymer of the formula:

$$z'' - \left[z''\right]_{z} \left[z''\right]_{z} \left[z''\right]_{z}$$
(1c)

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where R, independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, a monovalent crosslink forming group, X, or a polyvalent crosslink forming group, X', with the proviso that in at least one repeat unit per molecule, at least one R is X or X';

<u>x is a number from 1 to 10,000 and z is a number from 0 to 10,000 signifying the average</u> number of repeat units in the composition; <del>x and z are as previously defined in claim 1 or 5;</del>

Z" is a monovalent chain terminating group; and

Z' is independently each occurrence selected from the group consisting of monomers of the formula:

where  $R^1$ , independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, X or X',  $R^5$  is  $C_{1-10}$  alkyl, aryl or aralkyl; and n is 1 or 2.

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8. (currently amended): A compound according to claim 7 having the structure:

$$Z^{n}$$
 $Z^{n}$ 
 $Z^{n$ 

where R, independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, a monovalent crosslink forming group, X, or a polyvalent crosslink forming group, X', with the proviso that in at least one repeat unit per molecule, at least one R is X or X';

x is a number from 1 to 10,000 and z is a number from 0 to 10,000 signifying the average number of repeat units in the composition; x and z are as previously defined in claim 5 and Z" is as defined in claim 7a monovalent chain terminating group.

9. (currently amended): A cross-linked polymer corresponding to formula:

$$z$$
"  $= \begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ 
 $z$ "
 $= \begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ 
 $= \begin{bmatrix} z \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ 

' wherein

R' independently each occurrence is R or a crosslinked derivative of X or X' with the proviso, that in at least one occurrence, R' is a crosslinked derivative of X or X', X is a monovalent crosslink forming group, X' is a polyvalent crosslink forming group, R is an inert

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substituent, x is a number from 1 to 10,000, Z" is a monovalent chain terminating group; Z' is independently each occurrence selected from the group consisting of monomers of the formula:

number from 0 to 10,000 signifying the average number of repeating units in the composition.

X, X', R, and x are as previously defined in claim 1, and

Z', Z" and z are as defined in claim 7.

10. A process for preparing oligomers or polymers of claim 7, which process comprises heating one or more compounds containing one or more fluorendiyl groups of the formula:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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where R, independently each occurrence, is an inert substituent, a monovalent crosslink forming group, X, or a polyvalent crosslink forming group, X', with the provisio that in at least one repeat unit per molecule, at least one R is X or X' or a composition comprising the same, optionally in the presence of a noninterfering compound, under reaction conditions sufficient to form an oligomer or polymer of Claim 7.

- 11. (currently amended): A film comprising one or more of the oligomers or polymers according to any one of claims 7 to 9 or preparable according to claim 10claim 7.
- 12. (original): An electronic device comprising one or more layers of polymer films, at least one of which comprises a film according to claim 11.
- 13. (new): A film comprising one or more of the oligomers or polymers according to claim 8.
- 14. (new): A film comprising one or more of the oligomers or polymers according to claim 9.
  - 15. (new): A film prepared according to claim 10.